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G.O. No. 4272

Dated 28 - 10 - 49

[Despatch Abstract.]

FOREIGNERS - Attitude of the United Kingdom government in regard to Nationals policy towards ex-enemy countries - Circular Memorandum from the Secretary of State for Commonwealth relations, London to the Government of India - Recorded.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
Ootacamund,
Dated the 30th September 1949.

Dear Mr. Ramunni Menon,

I am to forward a copy of the Circular Despatch No. H. 30 dated the 9th August 1949 from the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, London, to the Minister for External Affairs, and Commonwealth Relations, India received from the Prime Minister's Secretariat, New Delhi.

Yours sincerely,

To

Sri.K.Ramunni Menon, ICS.,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras
Fort St. George,
Madras-9

(Sd) P. Govindan Nair,
Secretary to H.E. the Governo

Copy of Circular Despatch No. H. 30 dated the 9.8.1949 from the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, London to the Minister of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations, India.

I have the honour to transmit the enclosed memorandum indicating the present attitude of the United Kindom Government in regard to Honours Policy towads ex-enemy countries. This memorandum has been submitted to and approved by His Majesty the King.

HONOURS POLICY AND EX-ENEMY COUNTRIES.

1. Orders, Decorations and Medals granted prior to the War to persons who subsequently became enemies.

(i) Orders:- (a) Any question of general reinstatement of such persons in lists of membership should remain for the present in abeyance.

(b) This would naturally be without prejudice to any consideration which the King might wish to give to particular cases in which His Majesty may be specially interested.

(ii) Decorations and Medals:- (a) The announcements in the London Gazette for the removal of enemy subjects from the lists of those in every way as effectively as in relation to Orders. (There were for Medals no Royal Warrants or letters from the Central Chancery when the awards were made). Any question of general reinstatement of these persons in lists of holders should remain for the present in abeyance.

(b) to Attempt to discourage well-disposed ex-enemies from wearing British Decorations and Medals which they were once granted would, however, be impolitic and no action should be take now to discourage Italians who earned British Decorations and Medals as allies in the war of 1914-18, from wearing the awards.

2. Awards prior to the war to British subjects of Foreign Orders, Decorations and Medals which subsequently became enemy Orders, Decorations and Medals.

(i) Any question of restoring cancelled permission should remain in abeyance.
(ii) Exception to the above rule should be made in favour of British subjects who were decorated as salaried officials of the Siamese Government or as honorary Consular Officers of the Siamest Government after a minimum of three years' service.

3. Services rendered since the cessation of hostilities and the resumption of full diplomatic relations. Ex-enemy Orders, Decorations and Medals:-

(i) Italy, Siam, Finland, Austria:- It is considered that offers by these countries, in recognition of services rendered since the resumption of full diplomatic relations, should now be accepted without regard to the ex-enemy factor, provided that no objection is found on other grounds.

(ii) Hungary, Bulgaria, Roumania:- It is considered that offers by these countries, in recognition of services rendered since the resumption of full diplomatic relations, should also be accepted without regard to the exenemy factor, provided that no objection is found on other grounds. Such offers would thus betreated in similar fashion to offers from other countries in the Communist sphere, such as Czechoslovakia, Poland and Yougoslavia, provided that the services rendered have not been opposed to the policy and interests of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
Abstract.

Foreigners - Attitude of the United Kingdom Government in regard to Honours policy towards ex-enemy countries - Circular Memorandum from the Secretary of State for Commonwealth relations London to the Government of India - Recorded.

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HOME DEPARTMENT

G.O. Ms. No. 4272. Dated the 26th October 1949.

Read:-

From the Secretary to His Excellency the Governor to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, C.No. 579/49-1 dated 30.9.1949.

Order:-

R E C O R D E D.

(By Order of His Excellency the Governor).

S.A. Iyengar,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To
The Commissioner of Police, Madras with enclosures.
The Superintendent of Police, Special Branch, C.I.D.,Madras with enclosures.

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/True copy/

Superintendent,
Madras Record Office.

k.y.s. 30.6.